AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims:

1-22 (Cancelled)

23. (New) A computer implemented method used by a computer user for identifying patents in a database which relate to a patent under test, comprising:

inputting by the user, to the computer, an identification of the patent under test; and

inputting by the user, to the computer, a command to display patents in the database which relate to the patent under test;

wherein, once the following searching, operating and displaying steps begin, each of the following searching, operating and displaying steps is carried out without additional patent identification input from the user:

a) searching the database and storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

b) searching the database and storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in at least one patent identified by the first generation data;

c) operating on the second generation data to filter out at least one patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test; and

d) displaying at least the operated-on second generation data to the user, such that the display does not include any patents filtered out by the operating step.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the steps are carried out in the order recited.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising displaying both the operated-on second generation data and the first generation data to the user.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising at least one of:

(a) storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

(b) storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in each patent identified by the first generation data; and

(c) operating on all of the second generation data to filter out each patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test.

27. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the input by the user is made using a first computer including a web browser and the searching is performed by a second computer, which first computer and second computer are connected to the internet.

28. (New) A computer implemented method used by a computer user for identifying patents in a database which relate to a patent under test, comprising:

inputting by the user, to the computer, an identification of the patent under test; and

inputting by the user, to the computer, a command to display patents in the database which relate to the patent under test;

wherein, once the following searching, operating and displaying steps begin, each of the following searching, operating and displaying steps is carried out without additional patent identification input from the user:

a) searching the database and storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

b) searching the database and storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in at least one patent identified by the first generation data;

c) operating on the second generation data to identify at least one patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test; and

d) displaying at least the operated-on second generation data to the user, wherein the display identifies at least one patent that is cited in the patent under test.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the steps are carried out in the order recited.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising displaying both the operated-on second generation data and the first generation data to the user.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising at least one of:

(a) storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

(b) storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in each patent identified by the first generation data; and

(c) operating on all of the second generation data to identify each patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test.

32. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the input by the user is made using a first computer including a web browser and the searching is performed by a second computer, which first computer and second computer are connected to the internet.

33. (New) A computer implemented method used by a computer user for identifying patents in a database which relate to a patent under test, comprising:

inputting by the user, to the computer, an identification of the patent under test; and

inputting by the user, to the computer, a command to display patents in the database which relate to the patent under test;

wherein, once the following searching, operating and displaying steps begin, each of the following searching, operating and displaying steps is carried out without additional patent identification input from the user:

a) searching the database and storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

b) searching the database and storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which cites at least one patent identified by the first generation data;

c) operating on the second generation data to filter out at least one patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test; and

d) displaying at least the operated-on second generation data to the user, such that the display does not include any patents filtered out by the operating step.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the steps are carried out in the order recited.

35.(New) The method of claim 33, further comprising displaying both the operated-on second generation data and the first generation data to the user.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising at least one of:

(a) storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

(b) storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which cites each patent identified by the first generation data; and

(c) operating on all of the second generation data to filter out each patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the input by the user is made using a first computer including a web browser and the searching is performed by a second computer, which first computer and second computer are connected to the internet.

38. (New) A computer implemented method used by a computer user for identifying patents in a database which relate to a patent under test, comprising:

inputting by the user, to the computer, an identification of the patent under test; and

inputting by the user, to the computer, a command to display patents in the database which relate to the patent under test;

wherein, once the following searching, operating and displaying steps begin, each of the following searching, operating and displaying steps is carried out without additional patent identification input from the user:

a) searching the database and storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

b) searching the database and storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to at least one patent in the database which cites at least one patent identified by the first generation data;

c) operating on the second generation data to identify at least one patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test; and

d) displaying at least the operated-on second generation data to the user, wherein the display identifies at least one patent that is cited in the patent under test.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the steps are carried out in the order recited.

40. (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising displaying both the operated-on second generation data and the first generation data to the user.

41. (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising at least one of:

(a) storing as first generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which is cited in the patent under test;

(b) storing as second generation data identifying data corresponding to each patent in the database which cites each patent identified by the first generation data; and

(c) operating on all of the second generation data to identify each patent identified in the second generation data that is cited in the patent under test.

42. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein the input by the user is made using a first computer including a web browser and the searching is performed by a second computer, which first computer and second computer are connected to the internet.